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June 7, 2002

Ms. Thoraya Ahmed Obaid
Executive Director

United Nations Population Fund - UNFPA
220 East 42nd Street
New York, NY 10017

Dear Ms. Obaid:

I know that UNFPA continues to be a leader in the renewed commitment of the world community in promoting economic development and saving women's lives by providing reproductive health services. As you know, President Bush has been withholding the \$34 million Congress appropriated last year for UNFPA in the FY02 Foreign Operations Budget which was signed into law January 10, 2002.

I would like to know if you have prepared any data that describes the impact the withholding of this funding has had on women around the world. I understand that funding UNFPA prevents unwanted pregnancies, abortions, maternal deaths and illnesses, and infant and child deaths. I also realize that the lack of proper services means the spread of HIV/AIDs, increased cases of obstetric fistulas and female genital mutilation.

I would like to know specific examples of how this funding hold has affected each of these program areas. Specifically, how many women are likely to die due to lack of funding, how many more will not be adequately served? How will your funding cuts affect the increases in abortion, HIV/AIDs, fistulas and FGM? I would also like to know how UNFPA support by the United States contribution of \$600,000 has helped your efforts in Afghanistan when we made a special appropriations to your agency in November 2001.

I have personally told President Bush how important UNFPA funding is for women around the world and congratulated him on UNFPA support in Afghanistan. Thank you for the work you and your organization have provided to women and children over so many years.

I look forward to hearing from you in the very near future.

Sincerely,


CAROLYN B. MALONEY
MEMBER OF CONGRESS